



A firefighter lights a backfire as the Rocky Fire burns near Clearlake, Calif. Crews are said to be gaining ground against the massive Northern California wildfire.
(AP Photo/Josh Edelson)
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Kerry: Malaysian trafficking upgrade not due to politics, trade talks

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Thursday that Malaysia was upgraded from the lowest ranking in a U.S. human trafficking report because it made significant improvements, not to ensure its continued participation in talks for a U.S.-backed regional trade pact. Malaysia was upgraded last month from the "Tier 3" ranking it received in last year's State Department report on trafficking. Critics contend that the decision was related to its involvement in negotiations for a Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement that Washington is eager to conclude. Kerry said he signed off on the trafficking report and had no conversations with anyone about links between it and the TPP talks. "The government of Malaysia, I am pleased to say, has made significant efforts to comply with the minimum standards," he told reporters after attending a regional security meeting. "Malaysia has passed additional legislation in 2014. They consulted with civil society, drafted amendments to anti-trafficking law in order to allow the country's flawed victim protection regime to change." Despite the upgrade, Kerry said Malaysia still has "a long way to go" and that it did not mean a "gold seal of approval" from Washington. Malaysia will be demoted next year if it fails to follow through, he warned. "I made it clear in my meetings, that this is a priority for the United States and that they need to continue to show leadership as they did in the passing of their laws with the full implementation of the laws," he said. "We all need to be true to the principal that although money may be used for many things, we must never allow a price tag to be placed on the heart and soul and the mind of a living person." Kerry's comments came as

congressional pressure in Washington intensified on the administration over alleged political interference in the rankings. The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations said it would be asking the State Department to submit to it all communications related to the devising of the report and that if it failed to do so, it would subpoena the information. President Barack Obama in late June signed into law legislation that gave him "fast-track" authority to expedite negotiations for the TPP, which involves 12 countries and would cover some 40 percent of the world economy. However, the fast-track authority bars the U.S. from entering into trade agreements with nations that have Tier 3 ranking on the U.S. human trafficking list. Malaysia was the only country in the TPP talks with the Tier 3 ranking. Human rights groups and dozens of U.S. lawmakers have protested Malaysia's upgrade. At a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing Thursday, lawmakers voiced deep concern that there had been political interference in the U.S. rankings. The top-ranking Democrat on the committee, Sen. Ben Cardin, questioned whether after this year's report more congressional oversight was needed before a country was taken off Tier 3. "There are upgrades in this report that are hard to understand. And I put Malaysia No. 1 on the list," Cardin said. He said legal amendments cited as progress made by Malaysia had not yet been carried out, and the number of trafficking convictions was "ridiculously low." "How much politics went into this? I hope zero. Because the TIP report is the gold standard," Cardin said, referring to the acronym for the Trafficking in Persons report. The committee's Republican chair, Sen. Bob Corker,

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Secretary of State John Kerry, accompanied by "2015 Trafficking in Persons Report heroes" whose efforts have made an impact on the global fight against modern slavery, speaks during a news conference at the State Department in Washington, where he released the 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

said there was also controversy over the rankings of India, China, Saudi Arabia, Cuba and Mexico.

"If it's true that the administration politicized this report, there are questions about why they chose to

significantly diminish a tool that has been effective in fighting slavery around the world," Corker said. □

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Movie-theater attacker may have planned to set off explosion

**ERIK SCHELZIG
L. JOHNSON II**
Associated Press
NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)

— The disturbed homeless man who attacked a movie theater with a pellet gun, an ax and pepper spray also had a propane tank and lighter fluid and may have been planning to set off an explosion, authorities said Thursday.

Vincente David Montano, 29, was shot to death by a SWAT unit Wednesday during the matinee showing of "Mad Max: Fury Road" at a Nashville-area multiplex.

Police Spokesman Don Aaron said investigators had not established a motive for the attack, but he said Montano had been committed for psychiatric treatment at least four times, twice in 2004 and twice in 2007.



This undated photo released by the Metro Nashville Police Department shows Vincente Montano, the attacker at a movie theater in Antioch, Tenn., Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2015.
(Metro Nashville Police Department via AP)

According to police reports, his mother said he had a long history of mental problems, including hearing voices.

"This individual has had significant psychiatric or psychological issues," Aaron said. In addition to his weapons, a backpack and a duffel bag, Montano had a canister of propane, lighter fluid and a lighter and may have intended to set off a blast, Aaron said. But he said Montano had made a gash on the canister, rendering it useless.

Police said Montano bought a ticket to the movie and went inside with his weapons. Some of the theatergoers ran out and alerted police.

Montano pointed his pellet gun at an officer and pulled the trigger, prompting the officer to fire one

round from his patrol rifle, officials said. Montano also began blasting pepper spray and fired his pellet gun again, and police shot back, police said. Aaron said Montano also hurled multiple objects, including chemical spray cartridges, at the officers.

Montano tried to escape out the back door of the theater, and as he emerged and started toward officers with ax in one hand and his other hand concealed by the duffel bag, five of them opened fire, police said. Montano was struck and killed.

One man was cut on the shoulder, evidently by the ax Montano carried, but was not seriously hurt. That man, his wife and their daughter were treated for exposure to pepper spray, Aaron said. Murfreesboro, Tennessee, police reports from 2004 show Montano's long history of mental problems, with his mother telling officers in one case that he heard voices telling him to do things.

Two days before the theater attack, Pruett contacted Murfreesboro police and said Montano was missing. She told police that her son was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia in 2006, according to the missing person report. Pruett told police she hadn't seen her son since March 2013.

Attempts to reach Pruett through telephone numbers listed for her and other messages were unsuccessful. Police said she had come to Murfreesboro to stay with a relative. □

Boston:

New video released in unsolved art museum heist

DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer
BOSTON (AP)

— Twenty-five years after the famed art heist at Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, law enforcement officials released new surveillance video Thursday showing an unauthorized visitor entering the museum the night before the robbery. Authorities hope the never-before seen video will spark leads to help recover the 13 pieces of stolen artwork, worth at least \$500 million. The low-resolution video — captured by museum security cameras — shows a security guard appearing

to hit an intercom button, then to grant access to a man who can be seen in the museum's reception area at about 12:49 a.m. on March 17, 1990, almost exactly 24 hours before the heist.

The man is also seen getting out of a car matching the general description of one reported to be parked outside the museum minutes before the theft. He uses the same rear entrance as the thieves, according to the office of U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz, which released the video.

The stolen artwork includes

Vermeer's "The Concert" and Rembrandt's "The Storm on the Sea of Galilee."

"Over many months we have engaged in an exhaustive re-examination of the original evidence in this case.

Our aim has been to ensure that all avenues have been explored in the continuing quest to recover these artworks," Ortiz said in a prepared statement.

Ortiz said officials are hoping the public may be able to help authorities identify the unauthorized visitor or the car seen in the video.

"I'm very hopeful that it will generate information that can lead us back to our paintings," said Anthony Amore, the museum's director of security.

The similar circumstances of what's shown on the video and what happened the night of the robbery — including the man entering through the same rear door as the thieves — have raised questions about whether the man was practicing for the actual robbery.

Ortiz said in an interview that the theory of a dry run for the robbery "makes sense," but is only speculation at this point. □

McConnell to Obama: Stop demonizing Iran deal opponents



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, as the Senate began its summer recess.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

ALAN FRAM

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is treating his drive to win congressional support for his nuclear deal with Iran like a political campaign, making attacks on opponents that need to stop, Senate Republican Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Thursday.

McConnell's comments came as the Senate left town for a summer recess that both sides in the dispute plan to use to try lining up support for showdown votes next month. They followed a tumultuous early debate over the nuclear agreement in which Republican opponents of the agreement have used strong language to criticize

Obama.

Obama so far "is treating this like a political campaign," McConnell told reporters. "Demonize your opponents, gin up the base, get Democrats all angry and, you know, rally around the president. To me, it's a different kind of issue."

The majority leader has said he wants senators to spend

next month's debate over the Iran deal planted in their seats — an unusual step underscoring the issue's gravity.

Lawmakers are required to vote on whether to accept the Iran agreement by Sept. 17. Opposition is almost solid from Republicans arguing that the U.S. gave away too much in negotiations and from many Democrats sympathetic to Israel, which considers the pact a disaster.

It's nearly certain that the Republican-controlled Congress will reject the deal, and that Obama will veto that bill. That means the suspense is over whether Obama can corral enough Democratic support to sustain his veto and keep the agreement alive. "It's those hard-liners chant-

ing 'Death to America' who have been most opposed to the deal," Obama said of Tehran demonstrators in a speech Wednesday defending the multination agreement. "They're making common cause with the Republican caucus." McConnell pointedly objected to those remarks, saying, "The president ought to treat this like a serious national security debate rather than a political campaign and tone down the rhetoric and talk about the facts."

Yet in recent weeks, some Republicans have pulled no punches to criticize Obama over the agreement, which would lift sanctions on Iran in exchange for Tehran mothballing its ambitions to build a nuclear weapon for at least a decade. □

DNC: 6 debates to be held starting in October

LISA LERER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic National Committee unveiled plans on Thursday to hold six presidential debates starting this fall, with the first scheduled for Oct. 13 in the state of Nevada.

With Republicans focusing on their first debate, Thursday in Cleveland, Democrats released plans for a far-less-crowded schedule.

So far, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, former Virginia Sen. Jim Webb and former Rhode Island Gov. Lincoln Chafee are scheduled to participate in the officially sanctioned forums.

Vice President Joe Biden's staff has been kept informed about the schedul-

ing but has not committed to attending, according to Democrats involved with the process. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations. Recent conversations between Biden associates and Democratic donors and operatives have led to speculation that Biden might challenge Clinton, though he has not announced a decision to his staff or said publicly whether he plans to run.

Four debates are scheduled in early primary states before the Iowa sampling of how party members view the candidates, known as a caucus, on Feb. 1, a number considered too few by candidates challenging Clinton for the nomination. Dates for the final two gatherings, planned for Wisconsin and

Miami, have not been set, but the committee said they will be held in February or March.

In addition to the October forum, debates will be held Nov. 14 in Des Moines, Iowa; Dec. 19 in Manchester, New Hampshire, and Jan. 17 in Charleston, South Carolina.

The debates, said DNC chairwoman Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, will "give caucusgoers and primary voters ample opportunity to hear from our candidates about their vision for our country's future."

Both Sanders and O'Malley are pushing for more official forums to challenge front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton. For O'Malley and Sanders, both of whom lag behind Clinton in fundraising and organization, debates could offer an opportunity to get national attention. □

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California Wildfire 40% Contained as Crews Advance

JANIE HAR
Associated Press

LAKEPORT, California (AP)

— Crews backed by important firefighting resources are gaining ground against a massive California wildfire, but it may be several days before thousands of evacuees can return home, officials said Thursday.

Four more homes were destroyed overnight, bringing the total number of properties lost to 43. More than 13,000 people have been ordered or urged to leave their homes, vacation cabins and campsites since the blaze ignited July 29 about 100 miles (160 kilometers) north of San Francisco.

Dominic Polito, a fire spokesman, said he does not know when residents

will be allowed back home. Firefighters and equipment from outside the drought-stricken state have poured in to battle the blaze, which has chewed through more than 107 square miles (280 sq. kilometers) of parched terrain and was 40 percent contained, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said.

Days after declaring a state of emergency, California Gov. Jerry Brown visited fire crews Thursday and thanked them for their efforts.

He said the state is hotter and drier than it's ever been, making blazes more severe and extending the fire season.

The National Interagency Fire Center in Idaho has listed the fire as the nation's



The charred remains of a property is shown near Clearlake, Calif., Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015. Crews backed by important firefighting resources are gaining ground against a massive Northern California wildfire, but it may be several days before thousands of evacuees can return home, officials said Thursday.

(AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

highest priority for crews and equipment. It is the largest of 23 fires statewide and takes up nearly a third of the 10,000 firefighters dispatched in California. □

Obama declares disaster area for Saipan

JENNIFER KELLEHER

Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP)

— President Barack Obama has declared the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands a disaster area and is ordering federal aid to help the U.S. territory in the aftermath of a destructive typhoon.

The White House on Thursday announced the disaster declaration for Typhoon Soudelor, which destroyed homes, toppled trees and snapped utility poles over the weekend on the 48-square-mile island of Saipan. Damage surveys were ongoing, but the commonwealth remained without electricity and running water, and residents were rationing fuel.

Most major roadways have been cleared of uprooted

trees and debris, Saipan resident Glen Hunter said.

"The morning after the typhoon, you could not get anywhere because of the power poles ... and trees that fell on the ground," lifelong Saipan resident Lucy Selepeo said. "The tin houses, practically everything just flew away. The only thing you can see from the houses are the foundations."

Selepeo said concrete homes that withstood the winds, like hers, are flooded.

More than 500 people on Saipan were in shelters, according to the Red Cross. Officials distributed water at various stations across the island. Still, signs of aid remained scarce going into the fifth day after the storm, Selepeo said.

"I encountered a family of eight who slept on the beach in their car because their home flew away," she said. About 50,000 people live on the commonwealth's four populated islands, with most residing on Saipan, which took the brunt of the storm.

Nearby Tinian got some damage, while Rota was spared, said Gregorio Kilili Camcacho Sablan, the commonwealth's delegate to U.S. Congress.

As for Pagan, "No idea," he said. "I have no way to contact Pagan."

Ten generators were being shipped from Guam to power water pumps in Saipan, but the harbor was closed Thursday because of a listing boat that was half underwater, Sablan said. □



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US Financial Front:

Applications for US jobless aid rise to still-low 270,000

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Slightly more Americans filed for unemployment benefits last week, but their numbers remain near historic lows in a sign that the job market is healthy.

The Labor Department said Thursday that applications for jobless aid rose 3,000 to a seasonally adjusted 270,000. The four-week average, a less volatile measure, dropped 6,500 to 268,250. That average has fallen nearly 10 percent over the past year, close to levels last seen in 2000.

"Initial claims for unemployment insurance have been below 300,000 for 22 straight weeks, the longest such stretch since 1973," said Gus Faucher, senior economist at PNC Financial Services. "Claims are running at a pace consistent with monthly job growth of better than 200,000."

Applications are a proxy

for layoffs. Their steady decline suggests that employers are confident about the health of the economy and prospects for continued growth.

On Friday, the government will release its July employment report. Economists expect that employers added another 225,000 jobs last month as the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.3 percent, according to data firm FactSet.

The drop in people seeking unemployment benefits has corresponded with the solid pace of hiring.

Employers have added an average of 221,000 jobs a month in the past three months, driving down the unemployment rate to a seven-year low of 5.3 percent. The economy has created 2.9 million jobs over the past 12 months, gains that helped boost spending on housing and autos. □



Job seekers attend a job fair in Sunrise, Fla. The Labor Department reported on the number of people who applied for unemployment benefits the week ending Aug. 1 on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015.

(AP Photo/Alan Diaz)

Marketing group agrees to pay \$50M to settle milk price case

LISA RATHKE

Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) —

A national dairy marketing cooperative has agreed to pay a total of \$50 million to thousands of Northeast dairy farmers in an amended settlement of a long-running lawsuit accusing the group of trying to drive down milk prices, but some farmers are still opposed to the deal.

Under the proposal filed Wednesday, Dairy Farmers of America would pay an average of \$4,000 to about 9,000 farmers. The settlement must be approved by a judge, who rejected a previous proposed deal in March.

The 2009 class-action lawsuit charged Dairy Farmers of America, its marketing arm, Dairy Marketing Services,

and Dallas-based dairy processor Dean Foods with working together to monopolize the market for raw

milk in the Northeast.

Dean Foods agreed to a settlement of \$30 million in 2011. It covered farmers in Delaware, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,

New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

U.S. District Court Judge Christina Reiss rejected the previous settlement proposal mainly because some farmers opposed it.

They argued that they could be exposed to retaliation by the groups and said the estimated financial compensation of \$4,000 per farm was "functionally irrelevant," reflecting the cost of one "tractor fire," the judge wrote in her decision.

They also contended the proposal's injunctive relief was insufficient and would allow the defendants to continue practices that led to the lawsuit, Reiss said. □



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Egypt unveils Suez Canal extension with pomp-filled ceremony

**BRIAN ROHAN
HAMZA HENDAWI
Associated Press**

ISMAILIA, Egypt (AP) — In a defining moment of his young presidency, Egypt's Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi presided Thursday over the unveiling of a major extension of the Suez Canal that he hailed as a historic feat needed to revive the country's ailing economy after years of unrest. Upbeat and clearly relishing the pomp-filled occasion, el-Sissi nevertheless conceded that the \$8.5 billion project will not bring a quick economic windfall to a country roiled by violence and unrest since 2011. Its completion, he said, was but the first of a 1,000-step journey Egyptians must take toward economic recovery. "Egyptians have made a huge effort so as to give humanity this gift for development and construction," el-Sissi said, his words interrupted at times by the horns of container ships using the new extension — a sound that brought a smile to his face and cheers from those in attendance. The magnitude of the project, its completion on schedule 13 months into his presidency and the large

high-level foreign representation at its unveiling were likely to bolster el-Sissi's already high standing among many Egyptians — pushing aside, at least for a time, his reputation as an authoritarian leader with little regard for human rights or liberties. Playing into his hands is a clear shift by many Egyptians away from the need for democratic freedoms and toward economic survival as a top priority — not surprising in a country where nearly half the population is below or hovering just above the poverty line. Wearing his ceremonial military uniform and trademark dark sunglasses on a sweltering August day, el-Sissi flew to the site aboard a military helicopter and immediately boarded the same monarchy-era yacht that dignitaries sailed on during the canal's inauguration in 1869. The vessel, bedecked in Egyptian and foreign flags, was flanked by navy warships as helicopters, fighter jets and military transport aircraft screamed overhead. A triumphant el-Sissi stood on the upper deck, waving to well-wishers and folklore dance troupes performing on shore.



In this picture provided by the office of the Egyptian Presidency, Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi smiles at a boy dressed in a tiny military uniform as he waves the national flag from a monarchy-era yacht that sailed to the venue of a ceremony unveiling a major extension of the Suez Canal in Ismailia, Egypt, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015. El-Sissi has billed the extension as an historic achievement needed to boost the country's ailing economy after years of unrest.

(Egyptian Presidency via AP)

At one point, a young boy in military uniform and holding Egypt's red, black and white flag joined him on deck as they both waved the flag. But Thursday's festivities were partially overshadowed by an Islamic State group affiliate's threat to kill a Croatian hostage kidnapped in Cairo last month — a grim reminder of the threat posed by Islamic militants battling the Egyptian government. Tight security was in place at an elaborate ceremony held in the canal city of Is-

mailia and attended by foreign dignitaries, including French President Francois Hollande, King Abdullah of Jordan and Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Kuwait's Emir Sheik Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah and Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras also attended, as well as Yemen's exiled President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi and Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir. The canal extension has been trumpeted as a historic achievement by pro-

government media and has revived the nationalistic personality cult built around the 60-year-old el-Sissi, who as army chief led the overthrow of an Islamist president in 2013 and was elected to office last year in a landslide vote. Egyptian flags adorned streets across Egypt, along with banners declaring support for el-Sissi and hailing his latest achievement. Patriotic songs, some written especially for the occasion, blared from TV and radio stations on Thursday, declared a national holiday by the government. Banks and most businesses were closed and authorities, in sharp contrast to the government's zero tolerance for political demonstrations, allowed people to gather on streets and squares to celebrate the occasion. The new Suez Canal extension involved digging and dredging along 45 miles (72 kilometers) of the 120-mile canal, making a parallel waterway at its middle that will facilitate two-way traffic. With a depth of 79 feet (24 meters), the canal now allows the simultaneous passage of ships with up to a 66-foot draught. The project was initially estimated to take three years, but el-Sissi ordered it completed in one, something the pro-government media hailed as evidence of the president's resolve and seriousness. □

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Russia steamrolls Western cheese, fruit to enforce ban



A group of activists, members of "Eat the Russian food" movement, check food at a Moscow food store in Moscow, Russia. Russia has marked the one-year anniversary of its ban on Western agricultural products with an order to destroy contraband food, a move that has raised controversy amid the nation's economic downturn. (AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko)

V. ISACHENKOV

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — The Russian government steam-rolled tons of contraband

cheese and destroyed fruit with tractors Thursday in a public display of its commitment to its one-year-old ban on Western foods.

The move, however, has raised protests in Russia, with people signing a petition urging the government to instead donate

the food to the poor suffering through the country's vicious recession.

Coupled with the ruble's sharp depreciation, the ban on Western food has helped drive consumer prices up, pushing an increasing number of Russians below the poverty line.

The Kremlin, hoping to stem the flow of banned products by raising the costs for those involved in contraband, has ignored the public outcry. President Vladimir Putin's order to destroy the food underlines the Kremlin's determination to enforce the ban amid continuing tensions with Europe and the U.S. over the Ukrainian crisis.

The national agricultural oversight agency, Ros-selkhnadzor, said a total of 290 metric tons of banned imported fruit and vegetables were destroyed around the country on Thursday, along with 29.3 metric tons of animal products.

It took a steamroller about an hour to crush 9 metric tons of contraband cheese in the Belgorod region near Russia's western border. Officials in St. Petersburg were prepared to burn 20 metric tons of cheese in incinerators, while authorities in Smolensk, another western border city, planned to use tractors to destroy some 60 metric tons of peaches and tomatoes. □

Greece:

Creditors report progress in bailout talks

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greece's talks with its creditors on a vital third bailout are making "satisfactory progress," the European Union executive said Thursday in its most upbeat assessment so far, as Athens stocks rebounded three days after their worst plunge in decades. A European Commission spokeswoman, Mina Andreeva, said the lenders are hoping to finalize the 85-billion euro (\$92.5 billion) agreement in time for a major Greek debt repayment in two weeks. "We believe this is an ambitious yet possible timetable," she said. "Our

teams (have been) on the ground (for) almost two weeks, and they report satisfactory progress." The radical left government on Wednesday said Athens was hoping to avoid extending negotiations and having to seek an interim loan to cover the Aug. 20 payment, worth more than 3 billion euros (\$3.27 billion) to the European Central Bank. Greece has already received nearly 240 billion euros in rescue loans since it was drummed out of international markets in 2010. But although it tamed budget deficits through severe spending and income

cuts, tax hikes and market reforms, the country still requires a third bailout. The terms of the new loan are being worked out in Athens in talks between government officials and lead negotiators from the European Commission, ECB and International Monetary Fund. The Athens stock exchange gained 3.65 percent Thursday, three days after its disastrous opening — when a sixth of listed companies' value went up in smoke — following a forced five-week closure. Banks, which saw huge losses over the past three days, gained a collective 18 percent. □

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IS affiliate claims responsibility for Saudi police bombing

ABDULLAH AL-SHIHRI

AYA BATRAWY

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)

— An allegedly new Islamic State affiliate in Saudi Arabia claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing at a mosque inside a police compound in the country's southwest on Thursday that killed at least 15 people, most of them members and

recruits of the kingdom's special forces.

It was the deadliest attack against Saudi security personnel in years and one that is likely to pull the kingdom deeper into the regional war with IS extremists.

The blast took place in an Interior Ministry compound in the city of Abha, the provincial capital of Asir,

which lies along the border with war-torn Yemen. The troops killed were members of an elite counter-terrorism force.

The attack was stunning in its timing and target, coming just weeks after the Saudi Interior Ministry announced the arrest of more than 400 suspects in an anti-terrorism sweep. In April, they announced the arrest

of more than 90 suspects. The kingdom had for years quietly allowed thousands of Saudis to leave the country to join militant groups fighting in Iraq and Syria, until the late King Abdullah last year decreed that fighting abroad was illegal. At the same time, Saudi Arabia joined a U.S.-led coalition carrying out airstrikes in Syria and Iraq against the

Islamic State group.

The kingdom is also leading a coalition targeting Yemen's Iran-allied Shiite rebels who have carried out a number of cross-border attacks against Saudi military targets. It has also sheltered Yemen's exiled President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi whose loyalists at home are battling Iran-backed Shiite rebels known as Houthis. □

Palestinian rams car into Israeli soldiers, wounding 3

TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP)

— A Palestinian motorist rammed his car into Israeli soldiers in the West Bank on Thursday, wounding three before he was shot by Israeli troops, the military said.

The military said two of the soldiers were seriously wounded in the incident, which took place near the Jewish settlement of Shilo. The Palestinian driver was being treated in a Jerusalem hospital, where he arrived seriously wounded with four or five gunshot wounds, according to Shoham Ruvio, a spokeswoman for the Shaarei Tzedek hospital. Israeli media showed footage of a white car overturned on a road in the West Bank as paramedics treated the wounded. The incident comes as tensions between Israelis and Palestinians are high after the torching of a Palestinian home in the West Bank last week by suspected Jewish extremists that killed a Palestinian toddler



An Israeli forensic policeman inspects the scene of a car attack at a junction midway between Ramallah and Nablus near the West Bank Jewish settlement of Shilo, Thursday, Aug 6, 2015. A Palestinian motorist rammed his car into pedestrians near the West Bank Jewish settlement of Shilo, wounding three Israelis before he was shot by Israeli troops, the military said.

(AP Photo/Majdi Mohammed)

and severely wounded his parents and 4-year-old brother. It was unclear if Thursday's attack was related to last week's. In the past year, Israel has seen a wave of so-called "lone wolf" attacks by Palestin-

ians using vehicles, knives and guns. Earlier Thursday, a Palestinian health official said at least four Palestinians from the same family were killed and 13 people were injured in the Gaza Strip by an explosion of Is-

raeli military ordnance left over from last summer's war. Gaza Health Ministry spokesman Ashraf al-Qidra said the ordnance exploded as Palestinian workers were helping family members remove rubble from

a home destroyed during the 50-day war between Israel and the Hamas militants who rule the coastal territory. The home, which was struck by an Israeli air strike on July 9 of last year, belonged to Ayman Abu Nqira, a lecturer at the Islamic University of Gaza. The Israeli military declined to say why it was targeted. Rabie Abu Nqira, an eyewitness, said he was helping a crew remove rubble from the home using a bulldozer and another earth mover. "A huge explosion occurred," he said.

Neighbors said the explosion might have been caused by cooking gas cylinders that exploded in the summer heat.

Last year, six people, including an Associated Press video journalist and his Palestinian translator, were killed as Gaza police engineers tried to defuse unexploded Israeli ordnance. Three people, including an AP photographer, were badly injured. □

Al-Qaida exploits Yemen chaos to seize 3 towns

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP)

— Yemen's al-Qaida branch has exploited the chaos in this embattled country to capture three towns near the southern port city of Aden where pro-government forces have been advancing against Shiite rebels in recent weeks, officials said Thursday.

According to witnesses, al-Qaida's black banners were raised over buildings

in the towns of Rabat, al-Lahoum and al-Masaabin. Security officials said the extremist group seized government buildings without a fight and turned them into military bases.

Upon entering al-Lahoum, al-Qaida fighters demolished a building after accusing its owner of being an agent for Yemen's former President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his allies, the Shiite rebels known as Houthis, the officials also said. They

spoke on condition of anonymity under regulations while the witnesses did not want to be identified, fearing reprisals.

Yemen's armed forces have splintered over the conflict with the Shiite rebels, creating a security vacuum in some parts of the impoverished country that allowed the local al-Qaida branch to capture territory. Meanwhile, a plane belonging to Yemenia, the national carrier, landed

in Aden with 150 Yemenis who had fled to Djibouti when the fighting intensified in March, airport officials there said. It was the first commercial use of Aden's airport since Saudi-led airstrikes began in late March, targeting the rebels and their allies.

Airport chief Tarek Abdu Ali said Thursday's flight would be followed by daily flights to Aden. Sanaa's airport will also receive daily flights from the Jordanian capital,

Amman, according to the civil Aviation Authority.

Yemen's International Committee of the Red Cross said it has flown back seven Houthi prisoners from Aden to the country's rebel-held capital, Sanaa.

The flight was allowed through as part of an agreement to exchange prisoners between the pro-government and rebel commanders, Yemen's ICRC spokesman Shahin Ammane said. □



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Ex-President Carter shuts down electoral office in Venezuela

JOSHUA GOODMAN
Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— A pro-democracy foundation run by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has shut down its 13-year-old electoral observation office in Venezuela as the South American country gears up for closely watched legislative elections.

In a monthly report on Venezuela's political outlook published Wednesday, the Carter Center said it closed its Caracas office May 31 to concentrate its limited resources in other countries that have solicited its help. It said it would continue to monitor events from the center's headquarters in Atlanta.

The Carter Center has been a frequent observer of elections in Venezuela and it mediated talks between the socialist government and opposition following a 2002 coup that briefly un-

seated then President Hugo Chavez.

But members of the Venezuelan opposition have long viewed its activities and access to the government with mistrust, a sentiment reflected in hard-liners' celebration of its departure on social media. Particularly irksome was the center's validation of a 2004 recall referendum won by Chavez amid complaints that the process leading up to the vote heavily favored the government and his 2012 declaration that Venezuela's election process was the "best in the world." The Carter Center's departure comes as pressure is building on President Nicolas Maduro to invite outside observers for the important December legislative election that already has some on both sides talking of fraud by their opponents. For the first time in years, the opposition is heavily



Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro poses for a picture. A pro-democracy foundation run by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has shut down its 13-year-old electoral observation office in Venezuela. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

favored to win control of the National Assembly as voters fed up with triple-digit inflation, widespread food shortages and spiraling crime seek to punish the government. An opposition victory would likely set

the stage for a recall vote against Maduro before his six-year-term ends in 2019. The opposition accuses the government of trying to gain unfair advantage and abusing its authority by disqualifying the candidacies

of several prominent critics and removing the leadership of a major party in its Democratic Unity alliance. In turn Maduro charges that the opposition is hiding behind the cloak of democracy all the while preparing to disavow any unfavorable outcome and conspiring with the U.S. to oust him from power. The president has said repeatedly he will respect any ballot result but doesn't fear defeat since his side has won all but a single national election since Chavez kicked off the revolution 16 years ago. "Venezuela isn't monitored and won't be monitored by anyone," Maduro snapped at journalists during a visit to the United Nations in New York last week when asked whether he would allow international observers. □

Former Argentinean president on trial over bombing cover-up

DEBORA REY
PETER PRENGAMAN

Associated Press
BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)

— More than 21 years after a bomb ripped through a Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, ex-President Carlos Menem, a former top judge and several other officials went on trial Thursday for allegedly derailing the investigation into the South American nation's worst terrorist attack.

On a day of heavy rain, several of the 13 men charged in the cover up were ushered into the court and listened to the judges run down the charges. Menem, president between 1989 and 1999, was absent. Rodrigo Borda, a lawyer

for many families of the bombing victims, told reporters that Menem was not obligated to appear at this stage of the trial, which is expected to go on for months.

However, Borda said there would be times when the now 85-year-old would be obligated to appear, and would be jailed if he did not show up.

"The charges are serious crimes," he said.

Prosecutors have accused Iranian officials of being behind the 1994 bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association, which caused the organization's main building to collapse, killing 85 and leaving hundreds more injured amid the rubble. □



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Puerto Rico: Punishing drought hits amid economic slump

DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Puerto Ricans are learning to live without water on an island that already was suffering an economic crisis.

A severe drought is forcing businesses to temporarily close, public schools to cancel breakfast service and people to find creative ways to stay clean amid sweltering temperatures.

Rationing rules that had meant water coming through the pipes only one day out of three will increase the cutoff to one day out of four starting next week, government officials say.

"I've grown fearful of the weather report," said Cornelio Vegazo, owner of a roof-repair company. "There's no light at the end of the tunnel."

The drought is one of the worst in the U.S. territory's history. July was the fourth driest month in the capital of San Juan since 1898, the year Puerto Rico became a possession of the United States. Only 1.60 inches (4 centimeters) of rain fell last month, and forecasters predict several more weeks and possibly months of dry conditions.

More than 20 percent of Puerto Rico is in extreme drought and an additional 45 percent is in a severe



Fishermen clean their catch after fishing in the unusually low Carraizo reservoir in Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico, Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2015. Nearly 13 percent of Puerto Rico is in extreme drought and an additional 38 percent is in a severe one, according to the National Drought Mitigation Center, which says 2.5 million people are affected.
(AP Photo/Ricardo Arduengo)

one, according to the National Drought Mitigation Center, which says 2.8 million people are affected. The situation has grown so dire that Puerto Rico's water and sewer company announced Wednesday that it would spend about \$200,000 over three months on a pilot project to use "cloud seeding" in hopes of creating rain clouds over three of the island's main reservoirs. If Puerto Rico does not receive significant rainfall this week, tens of thousands

of clients who depend on the Carraizo reservoir will get water only every fourth day starting next week,

said Alberto Lazaro, executive director of the water and sewer company. "We are doing everything within our reach to address the situation at the reservoirs," he said. "We will not stop looking for alternatives to deal with a situation that, without a doubt, is one of the island's biggest concerns." Forecasters blame the lack of rain on El Nino, a warming of the tropical Pacific that affects global weather and has led to a quiet Atlantic hurricane season,

which began in June and ends in November.

So far this year, it has rained as much as 12 inches (31 centimeters) less than usual in San Juan and as much as 20 inches (51 centimeters) less in some areas around the Carraizo reservoir, said Carlos Anselmi, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service. U.S. Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsack has declared 20 of the island's 78 municipalities as disaster zones, with farmers reporting an increase in crops shriveling and cattle dying. The drought comes as Puerto Rico struggles in a nearly decade-long economic slump that has hit the government's coffers and led authorities to raise the sales tax, even on bottled water. Puerto Ricans also are grumbling about having to pay high water rates amid severe rationing measures. "It's not fair," said Hector Linares, a car wash worker. But he is resigned. "You can't fight Puerto Rico's bureaucracy." The government has set up water trucks throughout the San Juan metropolitan area and beyond, including one at a public housing complex in a working class community in Rio Piedras. □

Officials exit Haiti government over brash comments

EVENS SANON

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

(AP) — A hostile comment made by Haitian President Michel Martelly at a campaign rally has set off an uproar in his coalition government, leading a politically allied party to announce the resignation of three officials from his administration this week. The leader of the Fusion Social Democrats told reporters that two Cabinet ministers and a secretary of state will leave Martelly's government due to the president's comments to a woman in the port city of Miragoane.

"This is inappropriate. Enough is enough," Edmonde Supplice Beuzile said at a news conference announcing his party's vote to remove its three officials, which include the minister of women's affairs.

Martelly was at a rally July 29 when a woman accused his government of incompetence and complained that it failed to bring electricity to her community. Video broadcast by Haitian media show the president dismissing her with coarse, sexist language, telling her in Haitian Creole to "go get a man and go in the bushes" to have sex. Many in the crowd at the nighttime rally erupted in cheers and laughs at his remarks.

A presidential spokesman did not respond to a request for comment Wednesday.

Loss of the three officials from a core part of the coalition is unlikely to affect the outgoing president's ability to govern. Martelly, who took office in May 2011, is in the final year of a five-year term. □

Martinique: Agents make record hashish seizure

RODOLPHE LAMY
Associated Press

FORT-DE-FRANCE, Martinique (AP)

— Customs agents on the French territory of Martinique made a record seizure of hash at the island's Caribbean port, officials said Thursday.

Acting on a tip, officers found bricks of hashish packed neatly in 13 boxes

in the back of a van that arrived in Martinique with more than 600 other vehicles, Prosecutor Eric Corbaux said. Officials put the value of the 404 kilograms (891 pounds) of hash at about \$2.6 million. It was more than all hash seizures combined from 2012 to 2014 in Martinique and two other French overseas territories,

the majority involving small amounts found on couriers at airports. Corbaux said no arrests had been made but the investigation continued. Authorities believe the hash was produced in Morocco. The seizure comes just weeks after authorities in the French Caribbean seized nearly \$875,000 in

cash from suspected drug traffickers arriving from Paris. The most recent incident occurred on the nearby island of Guadeloupe, where officials found large bills inside a hollowed-out dictionary. "These recent seizures reveal we are dealing with local, structured networks that are diversifying their activities," Corbaux said. □



Ambient Aruba Love Festival was Hot, Hot, Hot!



ORANJESTAD – Last week-end at the Aruba Love Festival, the Arena at the Fisherman's Huts was full of partygoers dressed in festive white for two days full of hot fun in the sun and cool times under the full moon! The Aruba Love Festival is a new summer music festival in its second edition this year that celebrates the art of House Music. The 2015 edition of the festival

featured 3 stages and 50 DJ's from several different countries. The second edition of the festival offered guests wall-to-wall hours of

endless House Music with Aruba's hot beach scene acting as the backdrop. Festival-goers enjoyed Deep House Music at the

Love Stage, 100% EDM at the Paradise World Stage, and sublime ambiance at the techno tent. The festival included sets by over 50

DJ's from the United States, Colombia, Venezuela, Holland and Aruba. The 2015 Aruba Love Festival was a weekend to remember! □



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Loyal Guests Honored at the Tropicana Resort & Casino

PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple who are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at the Tropicana Resort & Casino. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-to-34 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Jesus Emilio and Mrs. Genaida De Davila of Merida, Venezuela. Jesus Emilio and Genaida are loyal members of the Tropicana Resort, and they love Aruba for the climate, beaches, safety, and restaurants, but most of all they love the friendly Aruban people.

The certificate was pre-



sented by Ms. Darline S. de Cuba representing Aruba Tourism Authority together with General

Manager Mr. Richard Roy and Mrs. Jacqueline Filici-

ana of the Tropicana Resort & Casino. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel

representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Lilian Brete and Lisette Bouwman representing the Tropicana Resort. □



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What's A Startup? ATECH Conference Set for August 28 & 29



ORANJESTAD - The term 'startup' has been used with increasing frequency over the past few years to describe young ventures. Over the past months it has been all over the local news in connection with the upcoming ATECH* Conference. But what is a startup really? Why should you attend the ATECH* Conference?

When researching the term 'startup' various definitions can be found such

as a startup is a company working to solve a problem where the solution is not obvious and success is not guaranteed. It is a state of mind. It is a business or undertaking that has recently begun operations. A company five years old can still be a startup. One thing we can all agree on is that the key to a startup is its ability to grow and is a company designed to scale very quickly. It is this focus on growth which differentiates startups from small businesses.

ATECH* Conference is the first conference of its kind



in the Caribbean. It is also one of the founding pillars in creating a technology hub for startups in Aruba and with an acceleration of the regional ecosystem. Its purpose will also serve to be an inspiration and offer the resources to existing companies and to those who are aspiring to start their own business in Aruba. Additionally ATECH* would like to create a platform

to attract local talents living abroad to contribute with their knowledge and expertise and built a mentorship community to new and young entrepreneurs on island without having to return to Aruba.

Are you a startup entrepreneur and are you a fan of innovation and technology? Come and share your experiences and ideas with fellow entrepreneurs and

take this opportunity to mingle with other startups. AT-ECH* Conference will take place on August 28 and 29 at the Hilton Aruba Caribbean Hotel.

For more information and or purchasing your ticket please visit www.atechconference.com/tickets. Updates and developments of the conference can be followed on www.facebook.com/ATECHConference. □



Playa Linda Debuts Its Latest Picturesque Improvements

PALM BEACH –At the popular Playa Linda Beach Resort, a greatly enhanced pool deck leads to a completely renovated main pool. In the latest debut of upgrades at an iconic property, an idealized image of a perfect way to spend an Aruba vacation has been realized, with the aqua blue of a free-form pool contrasting perfectly against the darker turquoise of the nearby Caribbean Sea. The official introduction of improvements was recently shared among guests and owners, with General Manager Steven Marra marking the occasion, together with representatives from the Co-op Board, including Chairperson Angela Guarino. “We began this process last year by unveiling a brand new activity pool, and then went on to completely renovate the main

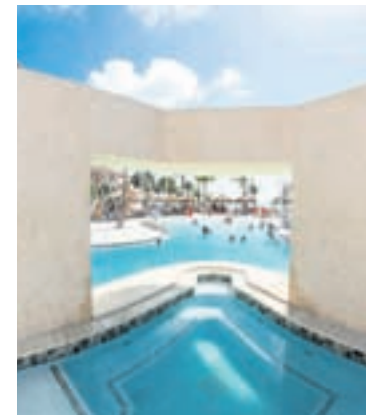


adding to Aruba's quality tourism product,” comments General Manager Steven Marra. As a mainstay in the island's tourism industry, Playa Linda Beach Resort was one of Aruba's first time-shares and remains one of

handicap access ramps, new bathrooms and more shade with added chick-ees. The investment in Playa Linda's public areas also extends out into the front of the resort, where a new walkway helps safely bring in more foot traffic

to an inviting shopping arcade. “We were able to reach all our goals, thanks to the excellent work of local contractors and with the outstanding efforts of our employees, who went above and beyond to ensure

guests experienced the least amount of inconvenience possible during the renovation work,” explains Marra. “At the cornerstone of our operations, we strive to provide a ‘home away from home’ atmosphere through unwavering hospitality along with ensuring beautiful surroundings and a high degree of comfort.” For over 30 years, Playa Linda remains a favorite island resort and an example of the best Aruba has to offer. □



pool, adding new design elements, and expanding our pool deck. All of our efforts have been in response to keeping up with the expectations of our members and guests as well as in

its best through a continuous commitment to innovation and improvement. Along with the positive changes recently made to the pool, the pool deck now features LED lighting,





Marin Cilic, of Croatia, waves to the crowd after defeating Sam Querrey during the Citi Open tennis tournament, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, in Washington.

Associated Press

Cilic edges Querrey in 2 tiebreakers to reach Citi QF

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sam Querrey gave U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic all he could handle in the first set — until the tiebreaker. In the second set, too — until the tiebreaker.

Getting his hard-court game in gear a few weeks before defending his first Grand Slam title, Cilic edged the 13th-seeded Querrey 7-6 (2), 7-6 (3) on Thursday to reach the Citi Open quarterfinals.

"Pretty comfortable tiebreakers," the third-seeded Cilic said, "but if one or two things would be a bit different, it could have been very, very tight."

How close was it? Take away the tiebreakers, and Querrey won more total points, 74-67. The American also compiled more winners, 32-25. And he even served for the second set while up a break at 5-3, but got broken there.

"A little bummed right now.

Continued on Page 22



Lee sets pace with an opening 65 at Firestone

Louis Oosthuizen, from South Africa, smiles after missing a birdie putt on the 10th hole during the first round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament at Firestone Country Club, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, in Akron, Ohio.

Associated Press
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Ledecky, Lochte earn golds for U.S. at world swimming meet

BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

KAZAN, Russia (AP) — Katie Ledecky just keeps winning at the world swimming championships.

Ryan Lochte is back on top, too, and together he and Ledecky carried the United States to its first two-gold medal night of the eight-day meet Thursday.

Ledecky anchored a 3.04-second comeback victory in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay for her fourth gold. Lochte won a record fourth consecutive title in the 200 individual medley. "We had a great night," Ledecky said. "We're really getting some momentum and showing what we can do."

Missy Franklin led off the relay for the Americans, and Leah Smith and Katie McLaughlin kept them within striking distance of Sweden, which was under world-record pace for much of the 16-lap race.

Ledecky dove in and quickly pulled even with Swedish anchor Ida Markovarga. The American teenager opened a slight lead at 700 meters and extended it to a body length before powering home in 7 minutes, 45.37 seconds.

"I knew I could bring it home and get this thing done," said Ledecky, who climbed out of the pool and into an embrace with her teammates. "We had a blast out there. We were so relaxed."

It was the third straight victory in the 4x200 relay for the U.S. at the worlds.

Italy earned silver in 7:48.41. China took bronze in

7:49.10. The Swedes faded to fourth.

Ledecky won the 200 free on Wednesday, to go with victories in the 400 and 1,500 freestyles. She set two world records in the longest

"I've got to be the team leader, whether it's in the pool or out of the pool, cheering, getting them going."

After a fourth-place finish in the 200 free, Lochte

second only to Phelps' career total of 33 — and his 16th gold.

The U.S. has won the event seven consecutive times, starting with Phelps' three titles in 2003, 2005, and

is just good training. I'm looking forward because we have a year to go to the Olympics in Rio, in my country."

Ning Zetao of China led all the way to win the 100 freestyle in a race missing two key competitors. He touched in 47.84 seconds.

"This evening is the night I will never forget," Ning said through a translator. "It is a dream of Asia, of China, to get gold medals in sprint distances, so I will have more confidence to prepare for the Rio Olympic Games."

Ning swept the 50 and 100 freestyles at last year's Asian Games, becoming the first Asian swimmer to break the 48-second barrier.

Cameron McEvoy of Australia finished second in 47.95.

Federico Grabich of Argentina was third in 48.12, earning his country's first medal at a long-course worlds.

Olympic champion Nathan Adrian of the United States tied for seventh, Vladimir Morozov of Russia was disqualified for a false start in the semifinals, and defending champion James Magnussen of Australia was home with a shoulder injury.

"The Olympics will be completely different," Grabich said. "Magnussen will be swimming, Adrian will be in better form. It will be much, much more difficult."

Natsumi Hoshi of Japan rallied on the last lap to win the women's 200 butterfly, and Fu Yuanhui of China won the women's 50 backstroke, a non-Olympic event. □



United States' Ryan Lochte swims in the men's 200m individual medley final at the Swimming World Championships in Kazan, Russia, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015.
Associated Press

distance race for women. "She's phenomenal. She's a beast," Lochte said of his 18-year-old teammate. "Between my win and her world records, hopefully it got Team USA on a roll."

Michael Phelps put in his two cents' from half a world away, texting Lochte and urging him to be more of a leader with the U.S. team. Phelps qualified for the worlds but wasn't in Kazan as part of his punishment by USA Swimming for a second drunk-driving arrest. He's competing at the U.S. nationals in Texas this week. "He's right," Lochte said.

made history in the 200 IM. He trailed through the first three legs but came home strong on the freestyle lap and won in 1:55.81.

"That's the coolest thing," Lochte said.

He joined Grant Hackett of Australia as four-time champions of their respective events. Hackett once dominated the 1,500 free.

"I'm definitely really humbled," Lochte said.

Thiago Pereira of Brazil finished second in 1:56.65, and Wang Shun of China was third in 1:56.81.

It was Lochte's 24th world championships medal —

2007. Lochte picked up the mantle with previous victories in 2009, 2011, and 2013. Lochte kept it low-key after hitting the wall, exchanging a hand clasp with Pereira, who was in the lane next to him. Lochte had just two individual events, although he could be selected for the remaining relays.

Pereira led the backstroke and breaststroke legs before Lochte overtook the Brazilian midway through the final lap.

"I thought I could break 1:56 but I couldn't," Pereira said. "I'm happy with a medal, and right now this

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Lee takes lead at Bridgestone; Graeme McDowell 1 behind

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Graeme McDowell and Jordan Spieth were in good spirits Thursday at the Bridgestone Invitational, which was good news for only one of them.

McDowell has been in such a rut that he has fallen out of the top 50 for the first time in five years and hasn't finished in the top 10 in America since playing this World Golf Championship a year ago. So he happily went along at Firestone South making five birdies in 10 holes on his way to a 4-under 66.

That left him one shot behind Danny Lee, who got his mistakes out of the way early and played a flawless front nine to lead the first round with a 65.

"I like this version of me today," McDowell said. "It's been a rough year, no doubt about it. Definitely been some time for reflection and some questions being asked of myself. It's how you answer the questions and how you come out the other side, really."

"I feel like I'll know what to do when I get back there, but it's all about the process of getting there now," he said. "So days like today will certainly help in that direction. I've got to keep doing it."

Spieth was playing for the first time since he missed the British Open playoff by one shot, ending his bid at the Grand Slam. He ex-

pected a little rust. What concerned him was a sloppy start that was missing some of his fire. Walking up the fourth fairway, he said he told his caddie, "I need to get a little bit inspired right now."

He made a bogey on par-5 second hole, the easiest at Firestone. His shot from the rough on No. 3 clipped some branches, and for a minute Spieth thought it might go in the water and lead to double bogey. It barely made the green and he got par.

"I'm staring at 3 over through three, trying to bounce back on a course that could host a major championship," Spieth said. "I played these first three holes and it didn't bother me. And that should normally bother me the way I played them."

He made birdie on the next hole, a birdie on the final hole and shot 70. So did his playing partner, British Open champion Zach Johnson, in a pairing of the major champions this year. Johnson started birdie-birdie, only to come undone with a double bogey from the trees and rough on No. 9.

Spieth noted that he still hasn't broken par at Firestone, though this was only his fifth round. And even par wasn't a bad start.

The South Course featured fast fairways and firm greens, along with lush grass in the rough. Only 21 players in the 77-man field

managed to break par. Phil Mickelson wasn't among them. Spieth walked off the third green relieved that he cleared the water and made par. Mickelson was behind him and not so lucky. He clipped branches and went in the middle of the pond for a triple bogey. He shot 76.

Jim Furyk might get another chance to win a tournament he should have three years ago, when he went wire-to-wire until making a double bogey from the middle of the 18th fairway in the final round and lost by one. Furyk opened with a 66 to join McDowell one shot out of the lead.

Rickie Fowler and Justin Rose were at 67, while the large group at 68 included Henrik Stenson, Ian Poulter and Lee Westwood.

McDowell has three straight rounds of 66 at Firestone, though two of them were last year in softer conditions. This was a tricky test with the extra bounce on fairways and greens, and it was a big step for McDowell. It required getting the ball in play, some good wedge work around the greens and making putts. That's been his hallmark, and he relief on those parts of the game to carry him in the opening round.

The slump is mainly due to change at home. His first child was born last September, and McDowell has found it harder to leave home. His motivation waned, followed by his



Danny Lee, from New Zealand, chips to the ninth green during the first round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament at Firestone Country Club, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, in Akron, Ohio.

Associated Press

game and inevitably some confidence.

He is at No. 159 in the FedEx Cup and in danger of missing the playoffs. But he found one answer even before he got to Firestone. "Probably the hardest question was, 'Do I still want to grind and be out here? Do I still want this?' It was an easy answer. Yeah, I do want it," McDowell said. "If

this all went away, I'd miss it very badly. So when you answer that question positively, then you've got to start kind of answering all the other questions. How do I get myself back to where I need to be? And it starts with technique, and it starts with hard work and motivation and kind of all the things that I've done in the past." □

NL Capsules

Cardinals rally past Reds 4-3 in 13 innings

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — Matt Carpenter tied it with a solo homer in the eighth, and Randal Grichuk connected in the 13th in the St. Louis Cardinals' 4-3 victory over the Cincinnati Reds in Major League Baseball on Wednesday.

Grichuk was moved up to second in the Cardinals' struggling batting order. He doubled home a run in the sixth inning and hit his 15th homer in the 13th off Dylan Axelrod (0-1), Cincinnati's eighth pitcher.

Seth Maness (4-1) gave up a pair of walks in two innings.

Manager Mike Matheny changed the batting order — Grichuk went from batting eighth on Tuesday to second — to try to spark his struggling offense, but the Cardinals didn't get much going until late in the game.

Left-hander David Holmberg allowed two runs, including Grichuk's RBI double off the top of the wall in center that cut it to 3-2 in the sixth.

Carpenter tied it with a homer in the eighth off J.J. Hoover, only the third that the reliever has allowed this season. It was Carpen-



St. Louis Cardinals' Randal Grichuk watches his game-winning solo home run off Cincinnati Reds pitcher Dylan Axelrod during the 13th inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2015, in Cincinnati. The Cardinals won 4-3.
Associated Press

ter's fifth homer in his last six games.

METS 8, MARLINS 6

MIAMI (AP) — Closer Jeurys Familia finally got the last out and New York halted Miami's furious six-run rally in the ninth inning, holding off the Marlins for its sixth straight victory.

Ahead 8-0 going into the ninth, the NL East-leading Mets saw the Marlins actually bring the potential winning run to the plate. Familia retired Christian Yelich on a grounder with two runners on to end it. Juan Uribe hit a three-run homer and Lucas Duda

drove in three runs, giving Matt Harvey (10-7) a huge lead. Harvey pitched seven dominant innings, giving up two hits and striking out six without a walk.

Mets relievers Eric O'Flaherty, acquired Tuesday from Oakland, Hansel Robles and Familia all struggled in the ninth. Familia gave up two hits, but got Yelich for his 29th save in 34 chances.

David Phelps (4-8) was the loser.

DIAMONDBACKS 11, NATIONALS 4

WASHINGTON (AP) — Washington reliever Aaron Barrett threw away a bunt in the sixth inning and Arizona quickly broke away, handing the Nationals their fifth loss in six games.

Down 11-2 in the ninth, the pitching-rich Nationals resorted to putting utilityman Tyler Moore on the mound. He retired the first batter he faced, Arizona star Paul Goldschmidt, on an RBI groundout.

Goldschmidt, Ender Inciarte and A.J. Pollock each got three of Arizona's 17 hits. Wellington Castillo added his sixth homer in nine games.

The Nationals dropped two

games behind the New York Mets in the NL East division. Arizona has won nine of 13.

Rubby De La Rosa (9-5) went five innings for the win. Barrett (3-3) was the loser.

DODGERS 4, PHILLIES 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Yasiel Puig hit a three-run home run, Brett Anderson allowed one run in six innings and Los Angeles beat Philadelphia.

Howie Kendrick had three hits to help the Dodgers win for the fifth time in six games.

Jeff Francoeur homered for Philadelphia. The Phillies lost for only the fourth time in their last 17 games. They still have the worst record in baseball at 42-66.

Anderson (6-6) won for the first time since July 1. He allowed four hits, struck out five and walked two. Kenley Jansen struck out the side in a 1-2-3 ninth for his 20th save in his 21st opportunity.

Philadelphia starter Aaron Harang (5-12) was the loser.

GIANTS 6, BRAVES 1

ATLANTA (AP) — Madison Bumgarner pitched into the eighth inning, Kelby Tomlinson drove in three runs and San Francisco beat Atlanta.

Matt Duffy added a two-run double and Hunter Pence had an RBI single for San Francisco. The Giants have won 16 of 21.

Bumgarner (12-6), last year's World Series Most Valuable Player and a three-time All-Star, allowed seven hits, one run and struck out nine in 7 1-3 innings. Just two baserunners made it into scoring position against the left-hander.

Williams Perez (4-2) surrendered 10 hits, two walks and six runs in six-plus innings for the Braves, who have lost 11 of 14.

PIRATES 7, CUBS 5

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Gregory Polanco and Andrew McCutchen homered and Pittsburgh beat Chicago to end the Cubs' season-best winning streak at six games. □

Utah Jazz PG Dante Exum has torn ACL in left knee

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Utah Jazz say point guard Dante Exum suffered a torn ACL this week while playing for the Australian National team.

The news release Thursday from the Jazz confirmed what was feared after Exum went down Tuesday. The 20-year-old was driving into the lane and came to a jump stop when his left knee buckled. His Australian team was playing against the Slovenia National team in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

It is unknown when Exum will return. Utah Jazz general manager Dennis Lindsey says in the release that their main concern is Ex-



Utah Jazz's Dante Exum (11) reacts after being injured during the second half of an NBA summer league basketball game against the Boston Celtics Monday, July 6, 2015, in Salt Lake City.
Associated Press

um's long-term health. Exum was drafted by the Jazz with the No. 5 pick in

2014 and started 41 games last year. He averaged 4.8 points and 2.4 assists. □

AL Capsules

Angels rally with 3 in 9th to beat Indians 4-3

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California (AP)

— C.J. Cron hit a tying two-run single with two out and the bases loaded in the ninth inning against Cleveland closer Cody Allen and pinch-runner Taylor Featherston scored on a wild pitch, giving the Los Angeles Angels a 4-3 victory Wednesday.

Allen (1-4), coming in to protect a 3-1 lead for Danny Salazar, was charged with his third blown save in 25 chances after giving up a one-out single to Albert Pujols and two-out walks to Erick Aybar and Conor Gillaspie. Cron lined an 0-1 pitch to center to tie it, and Allen uncorked his fourth wild pitch of the season and second of the inning with pinch-hitter David DeJesus at the plate.

The Angels came in 0-44 when trailing after eight. Cam Bedrosian (1-0), the son of 1987 Cy Young Award-winning closer Steve Bedrosian, pitched a perfect ninth for his first career victory. Jose Ramirez and Ryan Raburn hit lead-off homers in the sixth and seventh innings. Angels starter Hector Santiago.

BLUE JAYS 9, TWINS 7

TORONTO (AP) — Jose Bautista hit a grand slam, Edwin Encarnacion and Josh Donaldson homered and Toronto beat Minnesota for its fourth straight win.

Encarnacion hit a three-run drive and Donaldson added a two-run shot. Toronto has homered in 17 of 18 games since the All-Star Game break, with 10 multi-homer games in that span. Miguel Sano homered and had three RBIs for the Twins. Sano hit an RBI single and Trevor Plouffe doubled home two runs as the Twins jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first against Drew Hutchison (10-2).

Toronto answered in the bottom half against right-hander Tyler Duffey (0-1), who was making his major league debut. Troy Tulowitz-

ski walked and Donaldson hit his 29th homer, tying a career high.

Bautista made it 6-3 in the second with his fifth career grand slam and 24th home run of the season.

Encarnacion made it 9-3 with a three-run drive off reliever J.R. Graham in the fourth, his 20th. The second-deck drive traveled an estimated 462 feet.

LaTroy Hawkins finished for his third save.

RED SOX 2, YANKEES 1

NEW YORK (AP) — Steven Wright handcuffed a torrid New York lineup with his steady supply of knuckleballs, and David Ortiz hit a colossal home run for Boston.

A costly throwing error by third baseman Chase Headley helped spoil the debut of prized Yankees pitching prospect Luis Severino, who yielded only two hits over five impressive innings.

Koji Uehara retired pinch-hitter Brian McCann with two on for his 24th save.

Alejandro De Aza hit an RBI double with two outs in the second — immediately following Headley's 18th error of the season. Ortiz connected on a 96 mph 2-0 fastball leading off the fourth, launching a drive that landed more than halfway up the elevated concrete bleachers in right field.

That was enough for Wright (5-4).

RANGERS 4, ASTROS 3

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Chris Gimenez hit the deciding home run and Texas held on to complete a three-game sweep of AL West-leading Houston.

After Texas scored three unearned runs in the first off Scott Kazmir (6-6), the Rangers' second started with Gimenez homering to straightaway center for a 4-0 lead. All three Houston runs were scored by players who reached on a walk.

The Rangers have won four in a row and seven of

eight, moving within five games of the division lead, the closest they have been since June 30.

Texas starter Nick Martinez (7-6), the right-hander pitching on his 25th birthday, walked three and struck out one while throwing 86 pitches in a game that started with the temperature at 100 degrees. Sam Dyson, the sixth Rangers pitcher, worked the ninth for his second career save — both since being acquired in a trade with Miami on Friday.

WHITE SOX 6, RAYS 5, 10 INNINGS

CHICAGO (AP) — Avisail Garcia hit a three-run homer in Chicago's five-run first inning and had a bases-loaded walk in the 10th to lift the White Sox past Tampa Bay.

Garcia drew the winning walk off closer Brad Boxberger (5-6).

In the 10th, Adam Eaton singled and stole second base and advanced to third when catcher Curt Casali's throw struck shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera in the ear, knocking him to the ground. Cabrera left the game later in the inning. Boxberger then intentionally walked Jose Abreu and Melky Cabrera to load the bases with one out before walking Garcia. Chicago closer David Robertson (5-3) had four strikeouts in two hitless innings. Evan Longoria homered for the Rays.

ORIOLES 7, ATHLETICS 3, 10 INNINGS

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Chris Davis hit his second grand slam in 12 days with one out in the 10th inning to lead Baltimore past Oakland.

Davis hit his 28th home run and third in four games on a 3-2 pitch from Arnold Leon (0-1). It came two batters after Gerardo Parra was intentionally walked to load the bases. Caleb Joseph and Manny Machado led off the inning with singles. □



Los Angeles Angels' David DeJesus celebrates as Taylor Featherston scores on a wild pitch in the ninth inning for a 4-3 victory over the Cleveland Indians in a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2015, in Anaheim, Calif. Associated Press

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FANTASTIC 4

MILES TELLER | KATE MARA

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SAT 2:20 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 2:20 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

FANTASTIC 4

MILES TELLER | KATE MARA

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20
FRI 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20 | 10:35
SAT 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20 | 10:35
SUN & HOL 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20

DARK PLACES

CHARLIZE THERON | NICHOLAS HOULT

MON-THURS 6:55 | 9:25
FRI-SAT 6:55 | 9:25 | 11:55
SUN & HOL 6:55 | 9:25

Shaun the Sheep MOVIE

JUSTIN FLETCHER | JOHN SPARKES

MON-FRI 5:00 | 7:05
SAT, SUN & HOL 2:55 | 5:00 | 7:05

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TOM CRUISE | JEREMY RENNER

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WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 3:40 | 5:10 | 6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25
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SAT 2:20 | 3:40 | 5:10 | 6:30
8:00 | 9:25 | 10:50
SUN & HOL 2:20 | 3:40 | 5:10
6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25

minions

SANDRA BULLOCK | JON HAMM

MON-FRI 4:45
SAT, SUN & HOL 2:15 | 4:45

TRAINWRECK

AMY SCHUMER | BILL HADER

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 9:15
FRI 9:15 | 12:00
SAT 9:15 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 9:15

ANT-MAN

PAUL RUDD | MICHAEL DOUGLAS

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15
FRI 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SAT 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15

PIXELS

ADAM SANDLER | KEVIN JAMES

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00
FRI 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00 | 11:20
SAT 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00 | 11:20
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00

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Former champ Lennox Lewis looks to revive Canadian boxing

MONTREAL (AP) — Lennox Lewis wants to revive pro boxing in Canada.

The former heavyweight champion is the frontman and one in a group of promoters that hopes to take asport that has faded everywhere in the country expect Quebec and put it back in the national consciousness.

"Montreal has carried the flag for the rest of Canada," Lewis said on Thursday. "Now I'm coming on board because I want the rest of Canada to come on board. I want to give an opportunity to young kids to box as professionals."

Canadian boxing was in the doldrums in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Even Montreal's Arturo Gatti headed to the United States to turn pro in 1991.

Lewis' group will start with a fight card on Sept. 11 at the Ricoh Coliseum in Toronto featuring Adonis Stevenson's sixth defense of his WBC light heavyweight title against unheralded American Tommy Karpency. Top Montreal promoter Yvon Michel will team with Global Legacy Boxing, headed by Lewis and Toronto businessman



WBC light heavyweight champion Adonis Stevenson, from Montreal, right, chats with former world heavyweight champion and now promoter Lennox Lewis before a press conference Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, in Montreal.

Associated Press

Les Woods, and Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment to put on the show. It will be part of fight man-

ager Al Haymon's Premier Boxing Champions series on U.S. television. It is the first world title fight

in Toronto since Aaron Pryor defended his light welterweight belt against Nick Furlano in 1984. If all goes

well, there are plans for more fight cards in Toronto, and other Canadian cities. □

Cilic

Continued from Page 17

I felt like I didn't necessarily outplay him, but I was right there," Querrey said. "In that first set, I felt like I had all the chances. But the tiebreaker got away from me a little bit. The second set was similar. I needed to tighten things up a little bit when I was serving for the set."

Down 1-0 in the first tiebreaker, Querrey put two first serves in, but lost both points by missing forehands, one into the net, the other wide.

"Right away, I was down 3-0 ... and against a guy like Marin, who's got a great serve himself and is so solid, you feel like you're a long way from the first set at that point," Querrey said. "So it kind of sucks the wind out of you."

With Cilic up 2-1 in the



Kei Nishikori, of Japan, returns the ball to Leonardo Mayer, of Argentina, during the Citi Open tennis tournament, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, in Washington.

Associated Press

second tiebreaker, he smacked a running, down-the-line forehand winner and raised his left fist. "That pretty much decided the match," Cilic said.

The Croatian is the first reigning U.S. Open champion to enter Washington's hard-court tournament since Andre Agassi in 2000. Next for Cilic is matchup

with 18-year-old Alexander Zverev of Germany, the youngest quarterfinalist in the nation's capital since Andy Roddick was 17 in 2000. Zverev got past 2012 Citi Open champion Alexander Dolgoplov 2-6, 6-2, 6-4.

The man Cilic defeated for the title at Flushing Meadows last year, Kei Nishikori, played nearly mistake-free tennis to move into his 11th ATP quarterfinal of the season by beating 16th-seeded Leonardo Mayer of Argentina 6-4, 6-4.

The second-seeded Nishikori made only seven unforced errors, half as many winners as he produced in the 1½-hour victory.

Nishikori meets Sam Groth for a berth in the semifinals. Groth delivered 20 aces in a 6-3, 6-4 victory over seventh-seeded Feliciano Lopez.

"I'm going to have to play my game style. Nothing

changes too much for me," Groth said, looking ahead to facing Nishikori. "I've got to hold serve and I've got to build pressure around that and I've got to make him feel uncomfortable. I'm going to attack the net. I'm going to be aggressive and I'm going to do what I do."

In other matches, Steve Johnson of the U.S. beat sixth-seeded Grigor Dimitrov 6-3, 1-6, 6-3, and will face Richard Gasquet or Richard Gasquet in the quarterfinals. Later Thursday, John Isner was scheduled to face 2014 runner-up Vasek Pospisil, while Teymuraz Gabashvili — who knocked off top-seeded Andy Murray on Wednesday — played Ricardas Berankis.

Women's winners included top-seeded Ekaterina Makarova, Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova and Christina McHale. □



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Automakers trying to prevent hackers from commandeering cars

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — When researchers at two West Coast universities took control of a General Motors car through cellular and Bluetooth connections in 2010, they startled the auto industry by exposing a glaring security gap. Five years later, two friendly hackers sitting on a living room couch used a laptop computer to commandeer a Jeep from afar over the Internet, demonstrating an even scarier vulnerability.

"Cars don't seem to be any more secure than when the university guys did it," says Charlie Miller, a security expert at Twitter who, along with well-known hacker and security consultant Chris Valasek, engineered the attack on the Jeep Cherokee.

Fiat Chrysler, the maker of Jeeps, is now conducting the first recall to patch a cybersecurity problem, covering 1.4 million Jeeps. And experts and lawmakers are warning the auto industry and regulators to move faster to plug holes created by the dozens of new computers and the growing number of Internet connections in today's automobiles.

The average new car has 40 to 50 computers that run 20 million lines of software code, more than a Boeing 787, a recent KPMG study found.

Miller and Valasek are known as "white hat," or ethical, hackers and reported their findings to the company. But the episode raised the prospect that someone with malicious intent could commandeer a car with a laptop and make it suddenly stop, accelerate or turn, injuring or killing someone.

After the 2010 hack, the

auto industry plugged access holes and tried to isolate entertainment and driver information systems from critical functions such as steering and brakes. But in each subsequent model year, it added microchips and essentially turned cars into rolling computers. The introduction of Internet access has created a host of

industry to seal off critical computers and add technology to stop hackers in real time.

Security experts say automakers should have systems that recognize rogue commands and stop them from taking control of a car. Some already do. They also say car companies must behave more

tack, Miller and Valasek used a laptop in Pittsburgh to control the vehicle in St. Louis.

They used the Cherokee's cellular connection to access its radio. From there, they penetrated the vehicle's controls, changing its speed and taking over the brakes and the transmission.

expertise and motivation, a large-scale hacking attack on cars is unlikely. "Some teenager is not going to do this or some bored group of undergraduates," he says.

Still, there is reason to question whether the industry is ready for a cyberattack.

Stefan Savage, a computer science and engineering professor at the University of California, San Diego, participated in the 2010 hack. He praised Tesla for hiring a cybersecurity officer with power to make changes. GM created a similar position. But he says other companies he preferred not to name have moved more slowly.

Savage says radios and other devices often have software owned by the outside supplier. As a result, the software can have vulnerabilities an automaker may not know about.

He also says it's difficult to isolate radios, locks and other features from computers that move and stop the car. For instance, after a crash, cars are programmed to unlock their doors.

The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, which represents a dozen major companies, says the industry is working with security firms and universities to prevent attacks. Earlier this month, companies formed a group to share information. Some companies such as Audi offer rewards to outside experts who find vulnerabilities in their systems.

Savage predicts all automakers will accelerate plans for instant Internet software updates.

"I'd be shocked if everyone doesn't deploy this stuff in the next few months," he says. "They can't afford not to." □



This product image provided by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) shows the Uconnect 8.4 inch infotainment system on a 2014 Jeep Cherokee Limited.

Associated Press

new vulnerabilities.

"The adversary only needs to find one way to compromise the system, where a defender needs to protect against all ways," says Yoshi Kohno, associate professor of computer science at the University of Washington, who was part of 2010 hack.

Mark Rosekind, who heads the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, has urged the industry to set cybersecurity standards and avoid government regulation.

But two Democratic senators, Edward Markey of Massachusetts and Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut, have introduced a bill that would force the

like the personal computer industry, instantaneously updating software via the Internet to stay ahead in a perpetual cat-and-mouse game. Tesla and BMW already can do this, and nearly all automakers are planning for it.

Even so, experts say it's nearly impossible to stop all cyberattacks, as the U.S. government and major retailers have discovered.

"It's the same thing you see in any industry: You do more and someone finds a way around it," says Bryant Walker Smith, a law professor at the University of South Carolina.

In the 2010 incident, the hackers worked near the car. In the recent Jeep at-

Just last week, another hacker revealed that he placed a small electronic box on a car to steal information from GM's OnStar system so he could open doors and start the vehicle. GM said the hack was isolated to one car and it has closed the loopholes. Miller says Fiat Chrysler did implement some security measures. The hackers at first got to a radio chip that was isolated from critical computers. It took them three months, but they got that chip to talk to another one and give them access to the Jeep's controls. All told, the hack took about a year.

Miller says that because so few people have the ex-

Media firms lead Wall Street lower

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Big media companies led the stock market lower Thursday as investors fretted over fading revenue from cable television. Viacom and 21st Century Fox were among the hardest hit. Major indexes headed higher in the first few minutes of trading before pulling a quick U-turn. The selling gained momentum until the afternoon, when the indexes recovered some of their losses. Walt Disney and other media giants sank following

dustrial average lost 120.72, or 0.7 percent, to 17,419.75, the sixth day in a row the Dow has finished with a loss. Over the past month, the market has been in the habit of making gains one week and losing them all the next. "We've been moving nowhere fast," said Terry Sandven, senior equity strategist at U.S. Bank Wealth Management in Minneapolis. "The market just lacks any direction." Sandven said he thinks things will change once investors get a clear picture of how quickly the Federal Reserve will raise interest

ings at big U.S. companies edged up 0.2 percent, according to S&P Capital IQ. Though meager, it's much better than the 4 percent drop analysts had forecast a month ago. Investors are looking ahead to the Labor Department's monthly jobs report on Friday. Economists forecast the government report will show employers added 225,000 jobs and the unemployment rate held at 5.3 percent for the second straight month. That level of job creation would buttress expectations that the Fed will lift its benchmark inter-



Planet Fitness dancers perform on treadmills outside the New York Stock Exchange after the company's IPO, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015. Big media companies led the stock market lower Thursday as investors fretted over fading revenue from cable television.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

signs that more people are cancelling their cable TV. Viacom, the company behind Comedy Central and Nickelodeon, reported Thursday that its sales and profit fell in the most recent quarter. 21st Century Fox, which owns MTV, also reported a drop in television revenue. Viacom's stock plunged 14 percent, and 21st Century Fox lost 6 percent. "You don't usually see media names move like this," said Rob Eschweiler, a global investment specialist at J.P. Morgan Private Bank in Houston. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 16.28 points, or 0.8 percent, to 2,083.56, and the Nasdaq composite lost 83.50, or 1.6 percent, to 5,056.44. The Dow Jones in-

rates for the first time in more than nine years. He's hoping the Fed will make its first move in September. "It will mean that the Fed thinks the economy is strong enough to handle something other than crisis-level rates," Sandven said. Among other companies in the news, Keurig Green Mountain plummeted 30 percent, the biggest drop in the S&P 500, after reporting falling sales of its packaged coffee and brewing products. The company said it plans to lay off 5 percent of its workforce in a bid to cut costs. Its stock dropped \$22.31 to \$52.67. With the bulk of big companies already handing in results, analysts project that second-quarter earn-

est rate later this year. "I think if the Fed doesn't move this year it's going to be a disappointment," Eschweiler said. "It would be a bit of a head scratcher: What do they know that we don't?" Major markets in Europe ended with slight losses. Germany's DAX lost 0.4 percent, while both France's CAC 40 and Britain's FTSE 100 slipped 0.1 percent. In Asia, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 inched up 0.2 percent while South Korea's Kospi lost 0.8 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 0.6 percent and the Shanghai Composite fell 0.9 percent. Benchmarks in Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines and New Zealand also finished lower. □

US consumer confidence hits lowest level since September

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumer confidence fell this month to the lowest level since September. Consumers are worried about the job market and rattled by events in Greece and China.

The Conference Board said last week that its index of consumer confidence fell to 90.9 in July from a revised 99.8 in June. That's the lowest since September's reading of 89.

Consumers' assessment of current conditions fell slightly to a still-healthy 107.4 from 110.3 in June; but their outlook for the next six months dropped sharply to 79.9 this month, the lowest since February 2014 and down from 92.8 in June.

Lynn Franco, a Conference Board economist, says consumers may have been concerned about the debt standoff in Greece and a stock market plunge in China.

The percentage of consumers describing current business conditions as "good" slipped to 24.2 percent from 26.1 percent in June.

The percentage expecting the job market to improve over the next six months dropped to 13.1 percent from 17.1 percent in June; the percentage expecting fewer jobs in six months rose to 20 percent from 15.2 percent.

Consumers were also slightly less likely to expect their incomes to grow in the next few months and more likely to expect them to fall.

Adam Collins, an economist with Capital Economics, said the dip in confidence also reflects higher gasoline prices in recent months; prices hit bottom at \$2.03 a gallon in late January and have since rebounded to \$2.70 a gallon, according to AAA. Consumer caution may reduce spending to an annual growth rate of 2 percent in the July-September period from the 2.7 percent forecast for the April-June period, Collins said in a research note.

He predicted their mood will improve. "With the labor market likely to strengthen further, wage growth poised to accelerate and the recent fall in oil prices suggesting gasoline prices may start to decline again," he wrote, "confidence should rebound soon." He expects consumption growth should then rise back toward 3 percent.

Still, Mark Vitner, senior economist at Wells Fargo Securities, worries that consumers' darkening mood reflects bigger problems. A strong dollar has made U.S. products less competitive in foreign markets, hurting American manufacturers. And weakening global economic growth has pushed down commodity prices and hurt mining and energy firms.

"The slide likely reflects the pressure that weaker global economic growth and the stronger dollar are exerting on parts of the country tied to energy production, mining and agriculture," Vitner wrote in a research report. The government will report Thursday on gross domestic product during the April-June quarter. The economy contracted 0.2 percent during the first three months of the year, pummeled by winter weather and global economic pressures that caused the dollar to rise in value and hurt the affordability of U.S. made goods abroad.

Economists say that the economy likely returned to growth in the second-quarter, expanding at a 2.7 percent annualized pace. A separate survey of consumer sentiment compiled by the University of Michigan that was released this month showed a preliminary decline in sentiment from June to July. □

Oreo-maker latest 'Big Food' company targeted for shakeup

CANDICE CHOI
MICHELLE CHAPMAN
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)—The maker of Oreo cookies may again be the target for a shakeup as "Big Food" companies scramble to transform amid changing tastes.

Activist investor Bill Ackman's Pershing Square said it took a 7.5 percent stake in snack maker Mondelez International Inc. that was worth about \$5.5 billion. The disclosure comes as Mondelez, which also makes Ritz crackers, Cadbury chocolates and Trident gum, had already been slashing costs to offset weak growth.

Such cost-cutting has become common for major packaged food companies, which are up against volatile economic conditions overseas and shifting tastes that favor foods marketed as fresher or more natural. To appease investors, companies including Campbell Soup, Coca-Cola, General Mills, Kellogg and PepsiCo have

said they would trim costs and free up more money for marketing, which is intended to drive up sales of their flagship brands. The struggles have also led



A shopper selects Oreo cookies at a Ralphs Fresh Fare supermarket in Los Angeles. Activist investor Bill Ackman is paying approximately \$5.5 billion for a 7.5 percent stake in Mondelez International Inc., the maker of products, including Oreo cookies and Cadbury chocolate, according to reports, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015.
(AP Photo)

a flurry of corporate restructuring and deal-making that is reshaping the industry. That has included acquisitions of smaller, faster-growing companies, as well as consolidation among big players intended to further reduce costs by combining functions like manufacturing and distribution.

In March, H.J. Heinz Co.

said it would buy Kraft Foods and create one of the world's largest food and beverage companies. The early plans outlined by executives focused on

the savings the deal would achieve, rather than the potential for sales growth. The deal was engineered by Heinz' owners, Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway and the Brazilian investment firm 3G Capital, which has become known for its cost-cutting management style.

That tie-up came after Mondelez had split from

Kraft Foods in late 2012, a move that was intended to allow each company to work with a more focused portfolio of brands. Mondelez took the snacks like Oreo and Chips Ahoy, while Kraft Foods held onto North America grocery brands like Jell-O and Oscar Mayer.

Because of the international appeal of its snacks and chocolate, Mondelez was seen as being buffered to a degree from the challenges facing many big food companies back in the U.S. But CEO Irene Rosenfeld conceded the company made some early missteps after its separation from Kraft, which led to disappointing financial results. Last month, however, Mondelez said it was making progress on its cost reductions and reported sales and profit that topped Wall Street estimates.

In a regulatory filing Thursday, Ackman's Pershing Square Capital Management nevertheless said it thinks Mondelez's stock is undervalued, and that it

intends to "engage in discussions" with the company on matters such as its strategic plans, which include "potential mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, or a sale" of the company. That raised the possibility of further deal-making in the food industry.

"We suspect Mr. Ackman's primary goal is to have Mondelez sold," J.P. Morgan analyst Ken Goldman wrote in a note to investors.

A representative for Mondelez, Valerie Moens, said the company welcomes Pershing Square as an investor. "We'll continue to focus on executing our strategy and on delivering value for all shareholders," she said in an emailed statement.

Representatives for Kraft Heinz and Pershing Square declined to comment. Pershing Square Capital Management LP said it owns 5.5 million shares and options covering 114.8 million more shares of Mondelez. Ackman's stake in Mondelez was first reported by The Wall Street Journal. □

Media stocks slammed as pay TV bundle starts unraveling

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Signs that pay TV's pricy bundles of channels are starting to unravel are starting to take a toll on major media companies.

Media stocks were hammered for a second day Thursday as Viacom's underwhelming earnings gave investors another reason to sell, after industry bellwether Disney earlier in the week trimmed a profit outlook due to more people cutting the cord on pay-TV packages.

While there have long been signs consumers love online video distributors like Netflix, Hulu and Amazon, it's the first time that signs of trouble for the traditional cable and satellite TV business have sent such a powerful shudder through the stock market.

Disney's stock is down 14 percent since Tuesday, when it reported that it



Joe Clayton, president and CEO of Dish Network, introduces the Sling TV, a live television streaming service, at a news conference at the International CES in Las Vegas. Dish said its satellite TV subscriber losses accelerated in the quarter through June, falling 81,000 to 13.9 million, nearly double the loss of 44,000 a year ago.
(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

was trimming its forecast for TV subscriber-fee profit growth through next year because of subscriber losses at its flagship ESPN sports network.

Over two days, Viacom is down 22 percent, Time Warner is off 13 percent, CBS has shed 7 percent and Discovery Communications is down 11 percent.

Twenty-First Century Fox is down nearly 13 percent. "Questions around the death of pay TV are now front and center even if the size and pace of declines are likely being overstated by press and Street commentary," wrote analyst Michael Nathanson of MoffettNathanson Research. Dish said Wednesday its

satellite TV subscriber losses accelerated in the quarter through June, falling 81,000 to 13.9 million, nearly double the loss of 44,000 a year ago.

Viacom Inc., which owns Comedy Central and Nickelodeon, reported Thursday that its profit fell in the most recent quarter. While that is largely due to a lack of big films this year, there have been questions about how it will handle a shift in how people consume media. Its shares have fallen 41 percent this year.

"There is no question that our industry is in the midst of significant change," Viacom CEO Philippe Dauman told investors Thursday.

Analysts say that popular channels like ESPN would likely survive any dramatic shift in consumer preference toward online channel packages like Sling TV, which at \$20 a month, is far cheaper than traditional

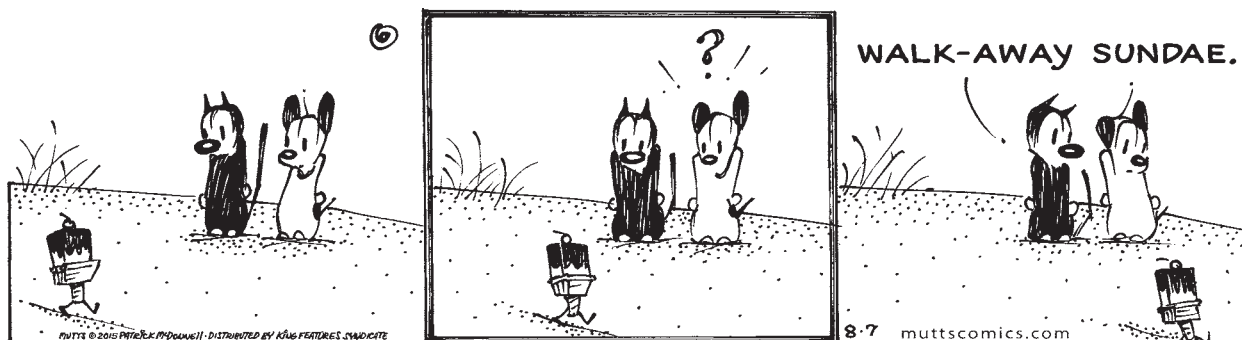
pay TV packages.

The question, wrote analyst Martin Pyykkonen of Rosenblatt Securities, is "whether the revenue substitution from skinnier bundles and/or a la carte channel plans will at least approximate the traditional cable bundle revenue over time."

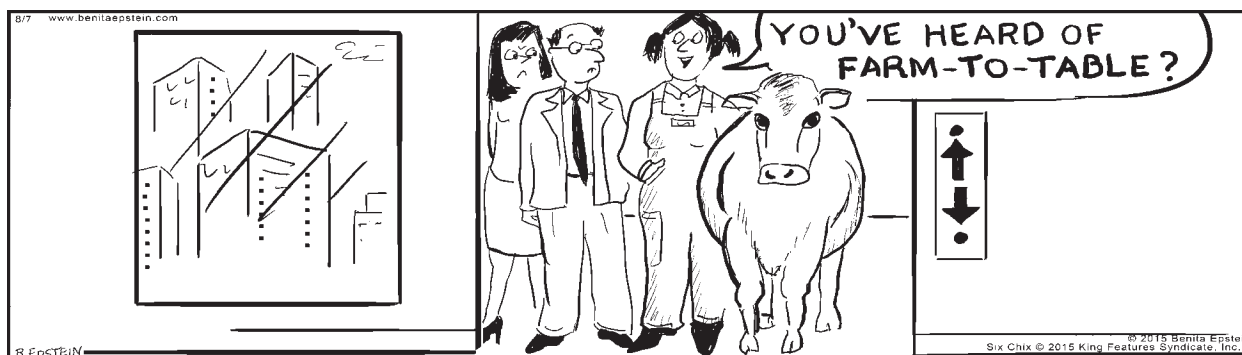
Disney's profit-forecast cut suggested otherwise.

Walt Disney Co. CEO Bob Iger told analysts Tuesday that while the company is proactive in supplying ESPN to small online packages like Sling TV, "we don't think right now it's the greatest opportunity." Iger said he didn't see "dramatic declines" in pay TV packages like those offered by DirecTV, Comcast and others "over the next, say, five years or so." He said he would contemplate options for ESPN if the traditional pay TV universe continued to shrink, "like going direct to consumers." □

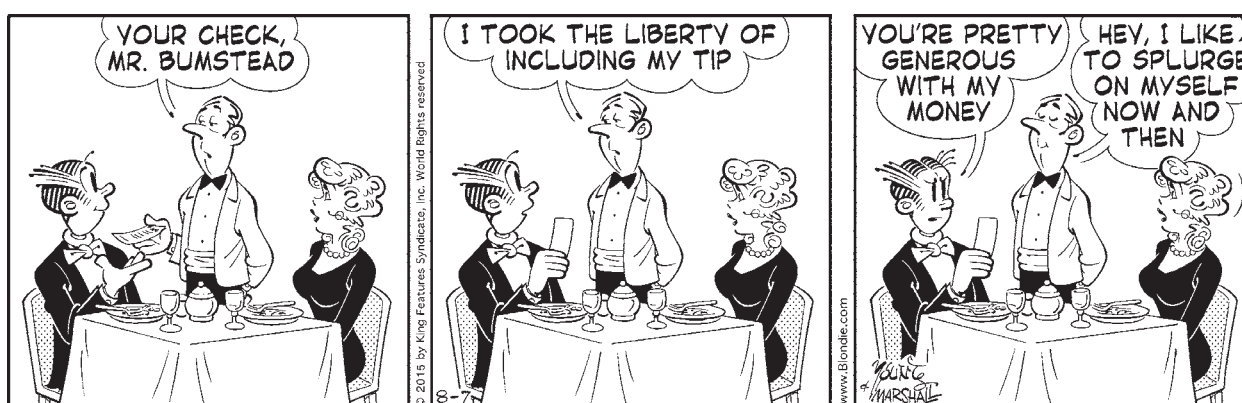
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			4		2			
		4				8		
	7	8				3	5	
6			2	7				5
7			9	6				3
	9	2				1	4	
		7				9		
			6	4				

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

5	2	3	1	8	7	4	9	6
9	7	6	4	5	2	3	1	8
8	1	4	9	3	6	5	7	2
6	3	7	2	4	9	1	8	5
1	4	8	7	6	5	9	2	3
2	9	5	3	1	8	7	6	4
4	5	2	8	7	1	6	3	9
7	6	9	5	2	3	8	4	1
3	8	1	6	9	4	2	5	7

ACROSS

- 1 Sheep's cry
- 6 Dishonest way to make money
- 10 One of the Three Bears
- 14 Bird of prey
- 15 Castro's land
- 16 Old
- 17 Word with right, acute or obtuse
- 18 Rainbows
- 19 Use a Kindle
- 20 Look like
- 22 Take a ___; gamble
- 24 Coat with a thin layer of gold
- 25 Roller ___; ride for the daring
- 26 Greek goddess of wisdom
- 29 Numerical comparison
- 30 Parched
- 31 Evil demon
- 33 Peruvian pack animal
- 37 Guacamole and salsa
- 39 Robes in India
- 41 ___ on; incite
- 42 Eyeglasses, for short
- 44 Log floats
- 46 American ___; North Dakota's state tree
- 47 Traveler's stop
- 49 Steers clear of
- 51 Ousted from the throne
- 54 Army vehicle
- 55 Flowering; in blossom
- 56 Very confused mental state
- 60 Newborn horse
- 61 Tearful request
- 63 As silly as a ___
- 64 "Measure ___ twice, cut ___"
- 65 Slender; thin
- 66 Abhors
- 67 Watched
- 68 Geologic ages
- 69 Rubbish

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20					21			22	23			
24					25							
26	27	28			29							
30			31	32			33	34	35	36		
37			38	39			40	41				
42			43	44			45	46				
47			48				49	50				
51	52	53				54						
55					56				57	58	59	
60				61	62			63				
64				65				66				
67				68				69				

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/7/15

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

DOWN

- 1 Tote; carry
- 2 Path
- 3 Breakfast order
- 4 State without proof
- 5 Abounding
- 6 Overcook milk
- 7 Make well
- 8 Big TV network
- 9 The Phillie Phanatic, e.g.
- 10 Umbrellas
- 11 Representative
- 12 "War and ___"
- 13 Deadly viper
- 21 Has the ___; is blue and bored
- 23 "___ Mary, full of grace..."
- 25 Nev.'s neighbor
- 26 Tallies up
- 27 Stumble
- 28 Excessive publicity
- 29 Not of the city
- 32 Rowed
- 34 Ridiculed
- 35 Stubborn critter

RODS	HICKS	SWAB
SHOT	ONION	TACO
VISA	UNDUE	ADDS
POETESS	FABRICS	
	USE	MAKER
SPARS	HEX	NEARS
TALE	PAL	ANDREA
ANT	FALLACY	DAB
BIASED	OLD	DODO
SCRAM	AWL	WORST
	LUAUS	CAL
EFFORTS	CURE	ALL
TRIO	OSCAR	FLEA
CAAN	LIARS	UTES
HUTS	LEASE	LOSS

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8/7/15

- 36 Upper limbs
- 38 Taught
- 40 Common metal
- 43 Unexceptional
- 45 ___ of hand; magician's skill
- 48 Star of "Heidi"
- 50 Tumult
- 51 Actor Willem
- 52 Black wood
- 53 Location
- 54 Levi's
- 56 College official
- 57 Smidgen
- 58 ___ up; depletes
- 59 Fit snugly together
- 62 Zodiac lion

Hotel trade group hits proposed sale of Orbitz to its rival Expedia

NEW YORK (AP) — The hotel industry is objecting to the acquisition of Orbitz by one-time rival Expedia, saying that it would lead to higher prices for vacationers and larger fees for hotel owners. "We believe this transaction and the resulting consolidation of the online travel marketplace will result in significant negative consequences, particularly for consumers, but also for the large number of our members who are small business owners and franchised properties," Katherine Lugar, CEO of the American Hotel & Lodging Association, said in a printed statement. Expedia early this year said it would buy Orbitz for \$1.3 billion. It had hoped to complete the acquisition in the second half of this year, but the proposed buyout is still under review by the Justice Department. The hotel trade group said Thursday that the deal would "severely reduce consumer choice." It also

noted that Expedia charges hotels, on average, 11 percent higher commissions than Orbitz. Many smaller, independent hotels rely on these sites to attract travelers who otherwise would not have heard of their properties. If the buyout goes through Expedia and competitor The Priceline Group Inc. will control 95 percent of the online travel agency bookings in the U.S., according to the hotel trade group. Priceline owns sites such as Booking.com and Kayak. Expedia declined to comment on the pushback from the hotel industry Thursday. Expedia and Orbitz own several websites that allow travelers to book airline tickets, hotel rooms or car rentals. Orbitz Worldwide Inc., based in Chicago, owns HotelClub.com, Orbitz.com and CheapTickets.com. Expedia Inc., based in Bellevue, Washington, owns Expedia.com, Hotels.com, Check Tickets, Trivago and Hotwire.com. □

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San Nicolas: Aloe Tel: 584-4606

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To bee, or not to bee: This is no bumbling insect audit

PATRICK WHITTLE
Associated Press

APPLETON, Maine (AP) —

Mad as a hornet, a bumblebee buzzes her wings in vain against the walls of the vial holding her captive. She alights briefly on the paper tab indicating her number, and then resumes scuttling around her plastic prison.

Her warden is Shaina Helsel, one soldier in a citizen army that is taking a census of Maine's bumblebees in an effort to secure the future of the state's blueberries, cranberries and tomatoes amid concern about the population of pollinators.

"Time, location, elevation play a factor in what species are where," says Helsel, a biology student at University of Maine at Augusta. "It's an interesting thing, going out and finding a bunch of different bumblebees. I've so far collected 105."

The project is among a growing number of "citizen science" efforts around the country that are designed to motivate the public to gather data about pollinators. The Great Pollinator Project of New York City tallied nearly 1,500 observations of the city's more than 200 bee species from 2007 to 2010. Across the continent, scientists and students at Washington State University also have tried to galvanize the public to collect data about bees, and more efforts are abuzz elsewhere.

Maine's counting effort is called the Maine Bumblebee Atlas, and it has a budget of about \$50,000. The state has been using its website, press releases, newspaper announcements and social media to

recruit volunteers — and it's been wildly successful. The state has signed up 106 volunteers, has another 150 in the queue and even had to turn people away from two booked-up training sessions, says

followed by another in spring 2016. The project is expected to last five years. The residents collect "observational data" about bumblebees and their habitats, while a specialist identifies the speci-

dollars in value honeybees provide to agriculture every year as pollinators. Scientists have cited factors that could be accelerating honeybee deaths, including parasites, pesticides, and poor

gists say. Data are poor on the status of the other 13, and officials say a multi-year statewide survey will better assess the population, range and abundance of the bees, which are key pollinators of wildflowers and some of the state's most important crops.

Engaging the public to collect data about the bees is a step toward conserving them, says Swartz. "People are interested in the plight of the bees; bumblebees are interesting and charismatic," she says. "Some of their work will give us quantitative data; we'll be able to tell if that particularly species is declining or increasing." The status of bumblebees has generated concern around the country because the southern borders of their territories have crept northward over the past 40 years. Scientists say populations have declined or are disappearing because of warming weather.

Indeed, Maine's bumblebees appear to be affected by climate change, says Frank Drummond, a professor of insect ecology at the University of Maine. The numbers of spring days when bumblebees can visit blueberries and other plants has been reduced by half since the early 1990s because of increased rain, he says.

That is worrisome for a state that relies on blueberries, a crop that supports a summer tourism industry and all manner of tasty confections, for \$250 million per year in economic value. "At that critical time of blueberry pollination, we've been getting lots of wet springs," Drummond says. □



In this July 8, 2015 photo a bumblebee gathers nectar on a wildflower in Appleton, Maine.

Associated Press

Beth Swartz, biologist for the state Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Volunteers include bankers, teachers, students and retired paper mill workers, she says — everyone from tree-loving conservationists to "people whose professional lives are not anywhere near focused on the outdoors."

The first training session for Maine's citizen scientists was in May, and another took place in July, to be

mens they collect, Swartz says.

The national conversation about bee die-offs has largely centered on honeybees, which are different from the furry, chunky bumblebees. The Bee Informed Partnership said this year that about 5,000 beekeepers reported losing more than 40 percent of their honeybee colonies during a yearlong period that ended in April.

The numbers are troubling because of the billions of

nutrition from a lack of diversity in pollen and nectar sources.

In Maine, the focus is specifically on bumblebees, and state officials say species that are in decline have suffered from habitat loss, pesticides, and diseases and parasites introduced through commercially raised bumblebees. Maine has 17 known native bumblebee species, and four of them became rarely observed starting in the 1990s, biolo-

Dre says he'll donate royalties from new album to Compton



In this Nov. 5, 2014 file photo, Dr. Dre attends the WSJ. Magazine 2014 Innovator Awards at MoMA in New York.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Dr. Dre says he will donate royalties from his new album to the city of Compton for a new performing arts facility. In an interview with Zane Lowe on Beats 1 Radio, Dre said he spoke to Compton Mayor Aja Brown about ways to give back to the city with the release of his first album in 16 years. The rapper said Thursday he "decided to donate all

of my artist royalties from the sale of this album to help fund a new performing arts and entertainment facility for the kids in Compton." "Compton: A Soundtrack by Dr. Dre," inspired by the N.W.A. biopic "Straight Outta Compton" which opens Aug. 14, will be released Friday. Dre said he hopes "everybody appreciates all the hard work I put into this album." □

John Stamos is all about family in his 2 upcoming comedies

FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)

— Two shows at the same time playing a member of two families: that's what John Stamos is up to these days.

He stars in the upcoming Fox sitcom "Grandfathered," playing a free-wheeling bachelor who discovers he has a son and infant granddaughter he never knew about.

Meanwhile, he's shooting "Fuller House," the much-awaited reboot of his enduring 1990s comedy that centered on three single men raising kids. It's being revived by Netflix.

Speaking to TV critics Thursday, Stamos said his dual roles are two sides of the same coin: unconventional family life. He cited



John Stamos participates in "Grandfathered" panel at the Fox Summer TCA Tour at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

"Full House" as an early example of a comedy built around an unconventional homestead. And now, on "Grandfathered," he plays a man who, at age 50, must come to terms with

Jamie Lee Curtis' secret to not laughing in 'Scream Queens'

ALICIA RANCILIO

Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)

— Jamie Lee Curtis has a trick to not laughing while filming a scene for Fox's new series "Scream Queens" no matter how funny the dialogue gets, particularly when it's improvisation from Niecy Nash.

"Here is my secret," she told TV critics Thursday. "I hold either a pushpin or a toothpick between my fingers and I push really hard during every scene."

"Watch my hand. My hand is below the frame and I don't care what's happening, whatever (Niecy) has thrown at me. I am squeezing a pushpin between my fingers to make it hurt really bad so that I will not laugh. And that is a testament to the writers, and it's very, very, very funny, and the situations are crazy and that is my secret."

It's a tactic she's used for years, and she jokes that Kevin Kline still won't talk to her because she "ruined great takes" by



Jamie Lee Curtis participates in the "Scream Queens" panel at the Fox Summer TCA Tour at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

laughing during their filming of the movie "A Fish Called Wanda." In "Scream Queens," Curtis plays a college dean in Anywhere U.S.A., where a murderer is on the loose. Cast members include Emma Roberts, Lea Michele, Keke Palmer, Abigail Breslin, Ariana Grande and Nick Jonas.

The show is written by Ryan Murphy, Brad Falchuk and Ian Brennan, who haven't

told the cast who the killer is or if their characters will survive.

"When you're making a horror show, you need that sense of fear and urgency in the characters," Falchuk said. "They don't know if this is the last time they're gonna see the other person. They don't know if they're the killer. ... If the actors know it tips it a little bit." □

'The Daily Show' set donated to Newseum



his Nov. 30, 2011 file photo shows television host Jon Stewart during a taping of "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" in New York.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The set of "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" will be donated to the Newseum after Stewart hosts his final episode Thursday night.

Newseum spokesman Jonathan Thompson said in a news release that the

museum of journalism will acquire the set, including the desk, globe and props, after Stewart hosts his final episode Thursday night.

The set will become part of the Newseum's collection for future display. □



In this July 20, 2014 file photo, Nat Faxon attends the FOX Summer TCA All-Star Party in West Hollywood, Calif. **Associated Press**

Nat Faxon says an Oscar doesn't satisfy his Hollywood hunger

ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Nat Faxon won an Oscar for co-writing the screenplay for "The Descendants" starring George Clooney, but that hasn't left him with a sense of security. "Even when you win an Oscar I think you're still always trying to prove your next gig," said Faxon, 39, in a recent interview. He believes the tendency to search for more exists outside of Hollywood as well. "I think that is true not only in our industry but in life in general," he said. "Even if you had all the money in the world, you'd have to fulfill something else or there's always the next thing. You're never in that exclusive club at the top of the mountain where you're drinking champagne and eating like kings." Faxon is also

an actor and director. He stars with Judy Greer in "Married," now in its second season on FX (Thursday, 10:30 p.m. EDT). "Working with her is very easy and I think that's a tribute to how good she is, you know? When it's hard and there's a struggle, especially when you're supposed to be married, you're working a little harder for that connection. With Judy, it's so seemingly effortless on her part, it makes you relax." Before "Married," he played a big brother to Dakota Johnson as a young, single mom in the short-lived Fox sitcom "Ben and Kate." Faxon isn't surprised that Johnson turned out to be a scene-stealer in "Fifty Shades of Grey." "She is very adept at playing many things," he said. "One of which is the sort of frazzled, sort of uncom-

fortable, foot-in-mouth scenario. ... And she does it really, really well. ... Not to say that's like all she does. That's one thing that I always remember from 'Ben and Kate.' I was like, 'Oh, you're so good at that.'" Faxon divides his on-camera time with behind-the-scenes work, writing and directing with Jim Rash (best-known for his role as a costume-loving, over-the-top college dean on TV's "Community"). "I guess we could be greedier and more selfish and fit ourselves into more things that we do, but some things just don't work out," he said. "You end up casting a bigger name that gets the movie financed. You have to be a little bit flexible in what makes sense only for you ... and what makes sense to get a different person to do it." □

Crime writer Steve Hamilton has 4-book deal, new publisher



This undated image released by Putnam shows author Steve Hamilton, who has landed a 4-book deal with G.P. Putnam's Sons, days after leaving St. Martin's Press. **Associated Press**

HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Prize-winning crime writer Steve Hamilton has a new publisher just days after leaving St. Martin's Press over what he cited as lack of support. Hamilton has a four-book deal with G.P. Putnam's Sons, the publisher told The Associated Press on Thursday. Hamilton's "The Second Life of Nick Mason," originally scheduled for release this fall by the St. Martin's imprint Minotaur, will come out in the middle of 2016. Earlier this week, Hamilton had startled the book world by breaking with St. Martin's, his longtime publisher, and openly criticizing it for not properly backing "The Second Life of Nick Mason," the debut of a series featuring an ex-convict trying to break from his criminal past. Authors have long complained about lack of attention from their publishers, but it's rare for one to leave at the start of a multi-book deal and so soon before a novel's release. More than 10 publishers "aggressively" pursued a contract with Hamilton, according to his literary agent, Shane Salerno. "I am overwhelmed by the response to my decision to leave St. Martin's and grateful to have had so many passionate pub-

lishers pursuing my work," Hamilton said in a statement issued by Putnam, which is part of Penguin Group USA.

The Nick Mason novel was supposed to have been the first of a four-book deal reached last year with St. Martin's. In a highly unusual step, Salerno said he paid nearly \$250,000 to get the author out of his contract (authors traditionally absorb the cost). Salerno added that the deal with Putnam was for substantially more than the near-seven figures Hamilton was to have received from St. Martin's.

Salerno, who besides being a literary agent is a screenwriter, filmmaker and author who in 2013 released a widely publicized documentary and book about J.D. Salinger, said Hamilton did not have the money on hand to buy out the contract himself. He added that he wanted Hamilton "to be completely free of St. Martin's" and able to find an enthusiastic publisher "who would support his work."

St. Martin's issued a statement this week saying that "After many years of publishing Steve Hamilton, unfortunately SMP has had a parting of the ways and will not be moving forward with the publication of 'The Second Life of Nick Mason.' We wish Steve all the best with his new series and his future endeavors." St. Martin's spokeswoman Tracey Guest said Thursday that the publisher had no additional comment. Hamilton, 54, is a respected and popular author known for his 10 Alex McKnight books. In 1999, his McKnight book "A Cold Day In Paradise" won an Edgar Award, presented by the Mystery Writers of America, for best first novel. Hamilton's "The Lock Artist" won the Edgar in 2011 for the best book overall. Hamilton's contract with Putnam calls for two McKnight novels and two Nick Mason novels. □

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